C-45 Levi Parsons letters, journals, and other material

1821/10/11
Mrs. Electa Parsons
Pittsfield
Vermont
U.S. America
Oct. Thursday 11 1821

My dear Mother,
[First paragraph lightly crossed out]

I am weak not able to write much. My weakness has been long but my life is not given to death. My Mother I must tell you the experience of one morning. When very weak -- no one to converse with me, no one to read to me, all around was dar -- I said what shall I do. I will try to look to the throne of God -- Soon my mind went up as on the wings of the wind. The Lord turned his face towards me, & I smiled. Again I said I will look to the throne, & again the Lord turned his face towards me, & I smiled for joy. So the third time with the same effect. My Mother it was a refreshing morning! The world would think strange of such language, but my Mother it is all plain to you. Now many times my Mother could say God is the light of my countenance, my rock, my fortress, my all.

Friday Oct. I write one word more. -- There is another subject which has been much on my my mind; that of the employment of Angels & probably of Saints in conveying souls to heaven. How it is done is not important. But how honorable & pleasing the employment! Who would not convey a prisoner long confined in a dungeon to his weeping yet joyful friends! Who would not assist in conveying Lazarus to the bosom of Abraham! Who would not aid Saint Paul on his heavenly course to Him though unseen he loved! I was long prying into this subject till these words were deeply impressed on my mind, “Stand back, stand back, it is too deep for thee”

For today my mother Adieu ---------

Friday Evening,

I said for today adieu, but this evening I am alone.

I think that Job says (I do not repeat word for word) when I lie down then thou scarest me with dreams. I believe that most sick people say that terrific dreams are a great affliction. In my sickness the Lord mercifully saved me from this pain. It has been a great consolation to me. My sickness, it is true, has been a long dream. But I was sometimes in America building meeting Houses, Theological Seminaries, teaching children. I believe, if my dreams are true, I have done as much in America for the past month as any other minister. But I was often in Jerusalem preaching with great success, & once I reasoned before the Governor of Smyrna as Paul before Felix.

You see I am a child. It is true I am weak.

Nor my Mother I must stop. The Lord bless you in the family, in retirement, in your visit, in your attempt to do good; Yea, the Lord bless you in all things

Your unworthy
But affect [affectionate] Son, Levi Parsons
~~Miss~~ Mrs. Electa Parsons

[Lightly crossed out]
Smyrna Nov. 27
My Dear Madam,

You see that my dearest friend & brother has been sick. But God had mercy on him & not on him only but on me also & on all the friends of missions. Do pray for us that all our trials & afflictions may do us Good. May God grant you always the light of his countenance.
Yours sincerely P. Fisk